

Ponnappakkam Adikesavan Loka Bharathi et al.  
Serial No.: 10/645,131  
Filed: August 21, 2003  
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REMARKS

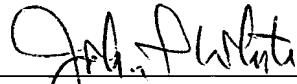
Claims 1-10 and 13-19 are pending in the subject application. By this Preliminary Amendment, applicants have amended the specification and claim 1 to identify the International Depository and the corresponding Accession number in connection with the claimed novel deep-sea bacterium.

Applicants maintain that this Preliminary Amendment does not introduce new matter. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment.

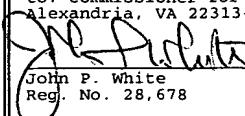
If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the telephone number provided below.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment. However, if any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	
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John P. White Reg. No. 28,678	Date